UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
EIGHTH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

EXAMINER
PANNALA, SATHYANARAYA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/081,488	KAGIMASA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sathyanarayan Pannala	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 February 2002</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-14</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-14</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☒ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/20/2002</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Application 10/081488 filed on 2/20/2002 has been examined. Claims 1-14 are

pending in this Office Action.

Priority

2.   Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an

application filed in 10/081488 on 2/20/2002. It is noted, however, that applicant has not

filed a certified copy of the JP2001-197686 filed on 06/29/2001 application as required

by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Information Disclosure Statement

3.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/20/2002 was filed with

the application. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97.

Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

4.   Claims 1-5 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: In the

preamble of claims stated as more than one terminal whereas in the claim limitation

stated as said terminal. Examiner interpreted as "a terminal" instead of "said terminal"

and more clarification is needed if the interpretation is not valid. Appropriate correction

is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
>
> This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims
> under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was
> commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the
> contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and
> invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in
> order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e),
> (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6.   Claims 1-2, 6-10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Sasaki et al. (US Patent 5,812,995) hereinafter Sasaki, in view of

Skopicki (US Patent 6,859,797) hereinafter Skopicki and in view of Brown et al.

(US Patent 5,913,208) hereinafter Brown.

7.   As per independent claim 1, Sasaki teaches document and classification method

for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to receipt of a request for registration of a document from said terminal to said

management apparatus, a content of the document with a content of a presently

registered document" as an electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input

selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as a document

request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki

does not explicitly teach comparing the data in the document to the classified

documents. However, Skopicki teaches the data contained in the document are

compared one by one to one or more of the document identification criteria, as the

identification criteria being defined as being defined by the content and/or the position of

a characteristic datum of a document (col. 2, lines 5-9). Thus, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to

have combined the teachings of the cited references because Skopicki's teachings

would have allowed Sasaki's method to identify automatically and easily a document so as to classify and file it (col. 1, lines 62-63). Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually displaying at said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for storage of a document similar in content as a result of said comparing" as a list request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

8.   As per dependent claim 2, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "upon receipt of a request from said terminal for storing in the region storing therein said document similar in content, a document under said request for registration is registered to said region" as a document composed of a group of document contents files 25 having a set of document files 26a, 26b, ...26n and each of the classification directories 27(i) is accompanied with a classification attribute information characterizing the classification are stored (Fig. 2, col. 5, lines 54-57 and col. 6, lines 5-8).

9.   As per independent claim 6, Sasaki teaches document and classification method

for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, upon

input of a request for registration of a document, a content of the document with a

content of a presently registered document" as an electronic document filing system 11

comprise an input selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as

a document request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-

16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach comparing contents of registered documents.

However Skopicki do teaches as data contained in the document are analyzed

according to their content and or their position in the document and they are compared

one by one to one or more of the document identification criteria (col. 2, lines 2-8).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at

the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references

because Skopicki's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method to identify

automatically and easily a document so as to classify and file it (col. 1, lines 62-63).

Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a client computer.

However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document management

apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to

have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's teachings would

have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network) environment can retrieve

documents created by other users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34).

Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "outputting relevant information with

correspondence to a region for storage of a document similar in content as a result of

the comparison" as a list request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a

list form, a copy request for the copy of a document or a type of classification is

registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

10.   As per independent claim 7, this claim is pertaining to a management apparatus.

Sasaki teaches document and classification method for preparing hierarchical structure

composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages, registering one or more documents and one

or more types of classifications characterized by a common attributes on a first

hierarchy state on the basis of the classification attribute information, and is stored in

one classification attribute information file of one type of registered on a second

hierarchy state higher than the first hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3,

lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is

not the same, Examiner needs more clarification relating to the specification, because

the word 'region' does not exist and even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches

the claimed step of "comparing, in response to receipt of a document registration

request from said terminal, a content of the document with a content of a presently

registered document" as an electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input

selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as a document

request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki

does not explicitly teach comparing the data in the document to the classified

documents. However, Skopicki teaches the data contained in the document are

compared to one by one to one or more of the document identification criteria, as the

identification criteria being defined as being defined by the content and/or the position of

a characteristic datum of a document (col. 2, lines 5-9). Thus, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to

have combined the teachings of the cited references because Skopicki's teachings

would have allowed Sasaki's method to identify automatically and easily a document so

as to classify and file it (col. 1, lines 62-63). Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly

teach a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer

connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1,   col. 4, lines

39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing

art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references

because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web

(network) environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the

web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "sending to

said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for storage of a

document similar in content as a result of the comparison" as a list request for the

displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of

a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

11.   As per independent claim 8, this claim is pertaining to a document information

management system, Sasaki teaches document and classification method for preparing

hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages, registering one or

more documents and one or more types of classifications characterized by a common

attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the classification attribute information,

and is stored in one classification attribute information file of one type of registered on a

second hierarchy state higher than the first hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col.

3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it

is not the same, Examiner needs more clarification relating to the specification, because

the word 'region' does not exist and even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches

the claimed step of "comparing, in response to receipt of a document registration

request from said terminal to said management apparatus, a content of the document

with a content of a presently registered document " as an electronic document filing

system 11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input

information such as a document request for the registration of a type of classification

(Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach comparing the data in the

document to the classified documents. However, Skopicki teaches the data contained in the document are compared one by one to one or more of the document identification criteria, as the identification criteria being defined as being defined by the content and/or the position of a characteristic datum of a document (col. 2, lines 5-9). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Skopicki's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method to identify automatically and easily a document so as to classify and file it (col. 1, lines 62-63). Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually displaying at said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for storage of a document similar in content as a result of the comparison " as a list request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

12.   As per independent claim 9, this claim is pertaining to a document information

management program. Sasaki teaches document and classification method for

preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages, registering

one or more documents and one or more types of classifications characterized by a

common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the classification attribute

information, and is stored in one classification attribute information file of one type of

registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first hierarchy stage by one

hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the word 'regions' in the

preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more clarification relating to

the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and even a related word is

not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in response to receipt of a

document registration request from said terminal to said management apparatus, a

content of the document with a content of a presently registered document" as an

electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving

various pieces of input information such as a document request for the registration of a

type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach

comparing the data in the document to the classified documents. However, Skopicki

teaches the data contained in the document are compared to one by one to one or more

of the document identification criteria, as the identification criteria being defined as

being defined by the content and/or the position of a characteristic datum of a document

(col. 2, lines 5-9). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data

processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited

references because Skopicki's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method to

identify automatically and easily a document so as to classify and file it (col. 1,

lines 62-63). Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a client

computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document

management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the

invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's

teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network)

environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web

server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually

displaying at said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for

storage of a document similar in content as a result of the comparison" as a list request

for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the

copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

13.   As per dependent claim 10, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "upon receipt of a

request from said terminal for storing in the region for storage of said document similar

in content, a document under said registration request is registered to said region" as a

document composed of a group of document contents files 25 having a set of document

files 26a, 26b, ...26n and each of the classification directories 27(i) is accompanied with

a classification attribute information characterizing the classification are stored (Fig. 2,

col. 5, lines 54-57 and col. 6, lines 5-8).

14.   As per independent claim 14, this claim is pertaining to a document information

management program. Sasaki teaches document and classification method for

preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages, registering

one or more documents and one or more types of classifications characterized by a

common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the classification attribute

information, and is stored in one classification attribute information file of one type of

registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first hierarchy stage by one

hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the word 'regions' in the

preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more clarification relating to

the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and even a related word is

not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in response to issuance of a

document registration request from said terminal, a content of the document with a

content of a presently registered document" as an electronic document filing system 11

comprise an input selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as

a document request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-

16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach comparing contents of registered documents.

However Skopicki do teaches as data contained in the document are analyzed

according to their content and or their position in the document and they are compared

one by one to one or more of the document identification criteria (col. 2, lines 2-8).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at

the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references

because Skopicki's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method to identify

automatically and easily a document so as to classify and file it (col. 1, lines 62-63).

Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a client computer.

However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document management

apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to

have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's teachings would

have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network) environment can retrieve

documents created by other users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34).

Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "sending to said terminal relevant

information with correspondence to a region for storage of a document

similar in content as a result of the comparison" as a list request for the displaying of

pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of a document

or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

15.   Claims 3, 5, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Sasaki et al. (US Patent 5,812,995) hereinafter Sasaki, and in view of

Brown et al. (US Patent 5,913,208) hereinafter Brown.

16.   As per independent claim 3, Sasaki teaches document and classification method

for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to receipt of a request for registration of a document from said terminal to said

management apparatus, bibliographic information of the document with bibliographic

information of a presently registered document" as an electronic document filing system

11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such

as a document request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines

11-16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach a using document bibliography. However,

Brown teaches the document catalog (bibliography) 250 contains an entry 290 for every

document indexed. The entry for a particular document is accessed by looking up the

document identifier 215 in the catalog. A document catalog entry stores the attributes

260 of the corresponding document. The attributes 260 are classified as intrinsic (275)

or non-intrinsic (265). The probabilistic measures and/or cosine similarity measures

that incorporate one or more query elements to produce a numeric or logical value (Fig.

2B, col. 6, lines 35-41 and lines 61-65 and col. 3, lines 49-58). Additionally, Brown

teaches a client computer connected document management apparatus through a

network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined

the teachings of the cited references because Brown's teachings would have allowed

Sasaki's method for users in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents

created by other users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Additionally,

the index can be used to search documents in the web and a hit-list generated.

Duplicate/redundant documents on the hit-list can be eliminated form displaying to the

user and more relevant documents will be displayed to the user (col. 3, lines 6-12).

Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually displaying at said terminal relevant

information with correspondence to a region for storage of a document similar in

bibliographic information as a result of said comparing" as a list request for the

displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of

a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

17.   As per independent claim 5, Sasaki teaches document and classification method

for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to receipt of a request for registration of a document from said terminal to said

management apparatus while designating one from among a plurality of regions under

hierarchical management, a content of the document with a content of a presently

registered document being presently registered in the designated region" as an

electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving

various pieces of input information such as a document request for the registration of a

type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki also teaches a plurality of

classification directories 27(i) respectively making a type of classification in hierarchical

structure are arranged on each of the hierarchy stages ranging from a first hierarchy

stated to an $(n-1)^{th}$ hierarchy stage and the directories are accompanied with a

classification attribute information file 28(i) consisting of classification characteristics

(Fig. 2, col. 6, lines 1-8) Sasaki and Skopicki' does not explicitly teach a network with a

client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer connected document

management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the

invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Brown's

teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network)

environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web

server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually

displaying at said terminal relevant information of a document similar in content being

registered in said designated region as a result of said comparison" as a list request for

the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy

of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

18.   As per independent claim 11, this claim is for a document information

management program. Sasaki teaches document and classification method for

preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages, registering

one or more documents and one or more types of classifications characterized by a

common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the classification attribute

information, and is stored in one classification attribute information file of one type of

registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first hierarchy stage by one

hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the word 'regions' in the

preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more clarification relating to

the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and even a related word is

not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in response to receipt of a

document registration request from said terminal to said management apparatus,

bibliographic information of the document with bibliographic information of a presently

registered document" as an electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input

selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as a document

request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki

does not explicitly teach a using document bibliography. However, Brown teaches the

document catalog (bibliography) 250 contains an entry 290 for every document indexed.

The entry for a particular document is accessed by looking up the document identifier

215 in the catalog. A document catalog entry stores the attributes 260 of the

corresponding document. The attributes 260 are classified as intrinsic (275) or non-

intrinsic (265). The probabilistic measures and/or cosine similarity measures that

incorporate one or more query elements to produce a numeric or logical value (Fig. 2B,

col. 6, lines 35-41 and lines 61-65 and col. 3, lines 49-58). Additionally, Brown teaches

a client computer connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig.

1, col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the

cited references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for

users in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other

users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Additionally, the index can be

used to search documents in the web and a hit-list generated. Duplicate/redundant

documents on the hit-list can be eliminated form displaying to the user and more

relevant documents will be displayed to the user (col. 3, lines 6-12). Further, Sasaki

teaches the claimed step of "visually displaying at said terminal relevant information with

correspondence to a region for storage of a document similar in bibliographic

information as a result of the comparison" as a list request for the displaying of pieces of

attribute information in a list form, a copy request for the copy of a document or a type

of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 16-21).

19.   As per independent claim 13, Sasaki teaches document and classification

method for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to issuance of a document registration request from said terminal to said

management apparatus while designating a folder within a plurality of folders, a content

of the document with a content of a document being presently registered to the

designated folder" as an electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input

selection 12 for receiving various pieces of input information such as a document

request for the registration of a type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki

also teaches a plurality of classification directories 27(i) respectively making a type of

classification in hierarchical structure are arranged on each of the hierarchy stages

ranging from a first hierarchy stated to an   (n-1)th hierarchy stage and the directories

are accompanied with a classification attribute information file 28(i) consisting of

classification characteristics (Fig. 2, col. 6, lines 1-8) Sasaki and Skopicki' does not

explicitly teach a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client

computer connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1,

col. 4, lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data

processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited

references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users

in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other

users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the

claimed step of "visually displaying at said terminal relevant information with

correspondence to a region for storage of a document being similar in content

and being registered to said designated folder as a result of the comparison" as a list

request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy request

for the copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5,

lines 16-21).

20.   Claims 4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Sasaki et al. (US Patent 5,812,995) hereinafter Sasaki, in view of Brown et al. (US

Patent 5,913,208) hereinafter Brown and in view of Wadley (USPA Pub.

2002/0181014A1).

21.   As per independent claim 4, Sasaki teaches document and classification method

for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to receipt of a request for registration of a document from said terminal to said

management apparatus, organization information of a registrant of the document with

organization information of a registrant of a presently registered document" as an

electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving

various pieces of input information such as a document request for the registration of a

type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach using

a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer

connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4,

lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data

processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited

references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users

in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other

users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Sasaki and Brown do not

explicitly teach documents related to organization. However, Wadley teaches using

documents relating to the organization. A server 164 is connected to a printer via the

network. The organization interested in analyzing regarding usage characteristics of

each of its printer resources (Fig. 5, page 3, paragraph [0035]). Thus, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the

invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Wadley's

teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network)

environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web

server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually

displaying at said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for

storage of a document similar in organization information as a result of said comparing"

as a list request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy

request for the copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5,

lines 16-21).

22.   As per independent claim 12, Sasaki teaches document and classification

method for preparing hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchy stages,

registering one or more documents and one or more types of classifications

characterized by a common attributes on a first hierarchy state on the basis of the

classification attribute information, and is stored in one classification attribute

information file of one type of registered on a second hierarchy state higher than the first

hierarchy stage by one hierarchy stage (col. 3, lines 26-35). (Examiner considered the

word 'regions' in the preamble as groups. If it is not the same, Examiner needs more

clarification relating to the specification, because the word 'region' does not exist and

even a related word is not listed). Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "comparing, in

response to receipt of a document registration request from said terminal to said

management apparatus, organization information of a registrant of the document with

organization information of a registrant of a presently registered document" as an

electronic document filing system 11 comprise an input selection 12 for receiving

various pieces of input information such as a document request for the registration of a

type of classification (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-16). Sasaki does not explicitly teach using

a network with a client computer. However, Brown teaches a client computer

connected document management apparatus through a network (Fig. 1, col. 4,

lines 39-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data

processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited

references because Brown's teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users

in the web (network) environment can retrieve documents created by other

users/providers on the web server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Sasaki and Brown do not

explicitly teach documents related to organization. However, Wadley teaches using

documents relating to the organization. A server 164 is connected to a printer via the

network. The organization interested in analyzing regarding usage characteristics of

each of its printer resources (Fig. 5, page 3, paragraph [0035]). Thus, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the

invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Wadley's

teachings would have allowed Sasaki's method for users in the web (network)

environment can retrieve documents created by other users/providers on the web

server (col. 2, lines 30-34). Further, Sasaki teaches the claimed step of "visually

displaying at said terminal relevant information with correspondence to a region for

storage of a document similar in organization information as a result of the comparison"

as a list request for the displaying of pieces of attribute information in a list form, a copy

request for the copy of a document or a type of classification is registered (Fig. 1, col. 5,

lines 16-21).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Sathyanarayan Pannala whose telephone number is

(571) 272-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sathyanarayan Pannala
Examiner
Art Unit 2167

srp
June 27, 2005